

Clearly, Sinclair Broadcasting's program to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election demonstrates the well-known dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the PUBLIC airwaves FREE of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the PUBLIC interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Sinclair has an opportunity to prove me wrong if they do not have its stations air "Stolen Honor," or if they do, but also air a pro-Kerry program like "Going Upriver" or "Fahrenheit 911" shortly after.

Thank you.